

REMARKS

In the present Office Action, claims 1-54 were pending. Claim 1-54 have been rejected. Specifically, claims 1-54 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0182447 A1 (“Schilling”).

Claims 1, 2, 3, 10, 12, 14, 18, 21, 22, 28, 30, 32, 36, 40, 43, 44, 50, 52, and 54 have been currently amended. Specifically, independent claims 1, 18, 36, 40 were amended by deleting the “at least one database of known URLs” limitation. Claims 2, 3, 12, 21, 22, 30, 43, 44, 52 were amended to change claim dependency. Claims 10, 28, and 50 were amended to add a period at the end of the claims. Claims 14, 32, and 54 were amended to correct improper antecedent basis. Moreover, claims 55-58 were added in order to recite canceled matter from independent claims 1, 18, 36, and 40, respectively.

Initially, the Applicants want to thank the Examiner for the informative feedback regarding the cited art. However, the Applicants maintain that the outstanding rejections to the claims are respectfully traversed.

Rejection of Claims Under § 102(e)

Claims 1, 18, 36, 40 are the independent claims. Claim 1, for example, recites the following:

In a computing system, a method for providing automatic universal resource locator (URL) analysis in connection with a process implicating a URL input mechanism, comprising:
receiving URL input from a client computing device;
analyzing the URL input and determining whether the URL input is valid;
when the URL input is invalid, performing *rules-based analysis* of the invalid URL input; and

suggesting at least one alternative URL based upon said analysis.

(emphasis added). Thus, from the above, it is clear that the invention performs “rules-based analysis.” The Specification at length explains what rules-based analysis entails:

The invention adds value to the overall user experience by recognizing when an error in URL input exists, and suggesting alternative URLs based on an *intelligent rules-based analysis*. Thus, when handling a domain name service (DNS) error, for example, as part of an autosearch component, the invention adds end user value by *intelligently helping the user figure out what might be wrong*. The invention thus enhances usability and does not significantly affect the amount of time taken to determine the validity of URL input, and in some cases, such as when multi-lingual domain issues are not present, decreases the amount of time taken.

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Some common errors that the intelligence of the invention fixes include: postfixing “.com” to “www.yahoo”, prefixing “www” to “hotmail.com”, changing “ww” to “www”, converting commas to periods, deleting trailing commas, converting the invalid input “www.nasa.com” to “www.nasa.gov” and changing “www” to “www”.

These rules are incorporated into a suggestion rules table, and may be based upon data from an offline URL dictionary, from actual use of the Internet based upon common errors and the like. In this way, the invention provides a suggestion rules table, which contains clues about how to “correct” problems with the URL input, which when combined with a spellchecker URL dictionary, yields a high confidence of valid alternative suggestions.

(Specification, p. 14, ll. 2-8 and p. 18, ll. 1-9).

In contrast, Schilling does not disclose such intelligent rules-based analysis ability.

Schilling discloses a generic top-level domain re-routing system. In this system, per Figure 2, for example, a root zone file is provided where the file corresponds to a set of supplemental DNS entries for pseudo top-level domains (TLDs). These pseudo TLDs each correspond to a miss-typed version of one of the TLDs specified in the root zone file (col. 3, para. 19). All Schilling discloses here is a type of mapping mechanism where a root like “.com” maps to a potentially

mistyped roots like “.cpm” or “.cokm”, or “.comm”, and so on. However, nowhere in its disclosure does Schilling teach “when the URL input is invalid, performing *rules-based analysis* of the invalid URL input” (claim 1) (emphasis added).

The other independent claims recite a similar limitations: “analyzing the URL input and determining whether the URL input is valid and if invalid, transmitting said URL input to a server computing device for *rules-based analysis* of the invalid URL input” (claim 18) (emphasis added); “analyzing the invalid URL input based upon *rules-based analysis* of the invalid URL input” (claim 36) (emphasis added); “means for analyzing the URL input and means for determining whether the URL input is valid and if invalid, transmitting said URL input with a means for transmitting to a server computing device for analysis based upon *rules-based analysis* of the invalid URL input” (claim 40) (emphasis added).

Claims 2-17 and 55, 19-35 and 56, 37-39 and 57, and 41-54 and 58, depend either directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 18, 36, and 40, respectively, and thus are considered allowable for the same reasons. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1-58 patentably define over Schilling. Withdrawal of the rejected claims and allowability of the newly introduced claims is thus earnestly solicited.

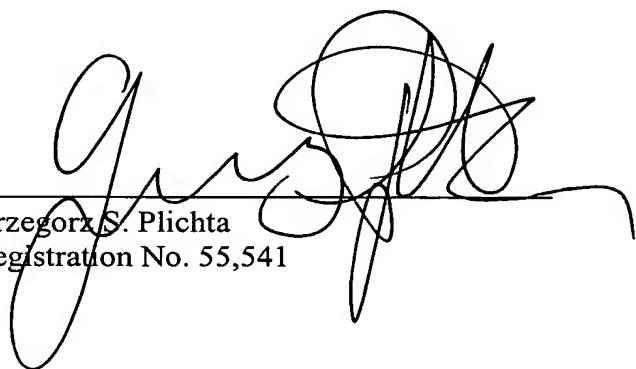
DOCKET NO.: MSFT-0767/186581.01
Application No.: 10/073,618
Office Action Dated: March 22, 2005

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CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Office Action, and submits that Claims 1-58 of the application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience is earnestly solicited.

Date: June 3, 2005



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